D 9411 /11(c)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

CROSS-REFERENCE SLIP

CONFIDENTIAL DRAWER

To be Registry OFFICE

FILE NO. D. 9411/11(c)

SUBJECT:

European Hostilities 1939.

Sale of German & Italian Ships to Japanese.

PARTICULARS	OFFICE	FILE NO.
1940		
INSTRUCTIONS SEE OVER		

CONFIDENTIAL

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

Section 1, Special Branch

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
File No. D.9411/11(C)
No. S. B. 1161/40

Date June 11, 1940.

Subject Royal Italian Embassy - wireless receiving sets consigned to.

Made by D.S.I. Hide Forwarded by D. I. Crawford

Information has been received to the effect that two cases containing a radio receiving set consigned to Dr. P. Prunas of the Royal Italian Embassy arrived from New York by the s.s. Yomachichi on or about May 22nd 1940. The gross weight of the cases was 78 kilos. and the net weight 37 kilos.

Two other cases also said to contain a radio receiving set consigned to Dr. C. Laurenti, Chancellor of the Royal Italian Embassy, arrived from New York by the same vessel.

All cases were exempted from Customs duty.

D. S. I.

D.C. (Special Branch)

FILE

INDEXED BY (S.B.) REGISTRY. DATE 13/11/40

STAFF MINUTE SHEET

17th June, 1940.

To

INFORMATION BUREAU, H.B.M. EMBASSY.

~~Enclosure~~

No.2371/336

Headed Sheet

or,

Letter Heading (N. S. O.)

Secret

Confidential

~~xxxxx~~

Copy to:-
Special Branch, S.M.P.

SUBJECT: Reference . Memorandum on alleged proposed sale of s.s. "CONTE VERDE".

CONFIDENTIAL

Since the beginning of the war there have been four German ships tied up at Yokohama, eight at Kobe and six at Dairen, besides the "Ramses" here. At least three of these German vessels would make better Raiders than the "Conte Verde" but, as far as is known, nothing has been done to prepare any of them for raiding; either the Japanese would not let them or the Germans have not thought it worth while.

There have been numerous reports also of Japanese intention to purchase or charter German ships for operation in the Inland Sea and territorial waters; after eight months warfare, however, no purchases or charters have been effected.

M. Neville

Lieutenant Colonel.
Royal Marines.

CONFIDENTIAL

SHAN. 18 JUNE 1940 COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

DC (Sp Br).
These are not marked Confidential
You might see Neville & put them on a line with our Int. position. The envelope was sealed & marked Confidential.
MB

OVER

COPY.

PROPOSED SALE OF THE S.S. "CONTE VERDE" TO THE JAPANESE SHIPPING COMPANY.

Information has been received from a very reliable source to the effect that upon instructions from its Head Office in Tokyo the local branch of the Toa Kaiun Kaisha, Japanese Shipping Company, 5 the Bund, has begun negotiations with the local branch of the Lloyd Triestino with a view to purchasing the s.s. "Conte Verde" now laying in Shanghai. No definite reply has as yet been given by the Lloyd Triestino as they are awaiting a cable from the Head Office in Rome. It has been learned that the Lloyd Triestino doubt very much that this offer will meet support of the Italian Government as they are of the opinion that the s.s. "Conte Verde", a very fast ship, will in the near future depart for Kobe, Japan, where it would be converted into an Auxiliary Cruiser for the purpose of raiding Allied Shipping in the Pacific Ocean.

The Lloyd Triestino has, however, offered the Toa Kaiun Kaisha the opportunity of purchasing for U.S.$2,260,000.00 a newly constructed passenger-freighter which recently arrived in Japan on its maiden voyage.

Dr Piero Terni, Italian lawyer of 149 Yuen Ming Yuen Road is acting as a go-between and preliminary negotiations were started at his Office.

PROPOSED SALE OF THE S.S." CONTE VERDE " TO THE JAPANESE SHIPPING COMPANY.

Information has been received from a very reliable source to the effect that upon instructions from its Head Office in Tokyo the local branch of the Yen Kaiun Kaisha, Japanese Shipping Company, 5 The Bund, has begun negotiations with the local branch of the Lloyd Triestine with a view to purchasing the s.s. " Conte Verde " now laying in Shanghai. No definite reply has as yet been given by the Lloyd Triestine as they are awaiting a cable from the Head Office in Rome.

It has been learned that the Lloyd Triestine doubt very much that this offer will meet support of the Italian Government as they are of the opinion that the s.s. " Conte Verde ", a very fast ship, will in the near future depart for Kobe, Japan where it would be converted into an Auxiliary Cruiser for the purpose of raiding Allied Shipping in the Pacific Ocean.

The Lloyd Triestine has, however, offered the Yen Kaiun Kaisha the opportunity of purchasing for U.S.$ 2.200.000.00 a newly constructed passenger-freighter which recently arrived in Japan on its maiden voyage.

Dr. Pietro Tonni, Italian Lawyer of 149 Yuen Ming Yuen Road is acting as a go-between and preliminary negotiations were started at his Office.

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It has been learned that the Lloyd Triestino doubt very much that this offer will meet support of the Italian Government as they are of the opinion that the s.s. " Conte Verde ", a very fast ship, will in the near future depart for Kobe, Japan where it would be converted into an Auxiliary Cruiser for the purpose of guiding Allied Shipping in the Pacific Ocean.

The Lloyd Triestino has, however, offered the Yen Kaiwa Kaisha the opportunity of purchasing for U.S.$ 2.250.000 00 a newly constructed passenger-freighter which recently arrived in Japan on its maiden voyage.

Dr. Piero Tosni, Italian Lawyer of 149 Tuan Ming Yuan Road is acting as a go-between and preliminary negotiations were started at his Office.